DC
BATMAN
ALL NEW STORIES
NOW ONLY 20c
BAT MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 243
AUG.
30430
YOU ARE WATCHING A FIGHT TO THE DEATH... THAT THE BATMAN DOESN'T DARE WIN!
S. 1262

HERE THEY COME!

RIP-SNORTIN' 3-WHEELED SIZZLERS-POWERED RACING MACHINES

called:

CHOPCYCLES™

There's never been anything like these babies before! Authentically styled! Fully detailed! With gleaming chromed engines. Big fat traction-grabbin' slicks. Power-charged like SIZZLERS® Cars. Send 'em flying! Around a FAT TRACK®... or across the floor.

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THE RIP RIDER™ SET:

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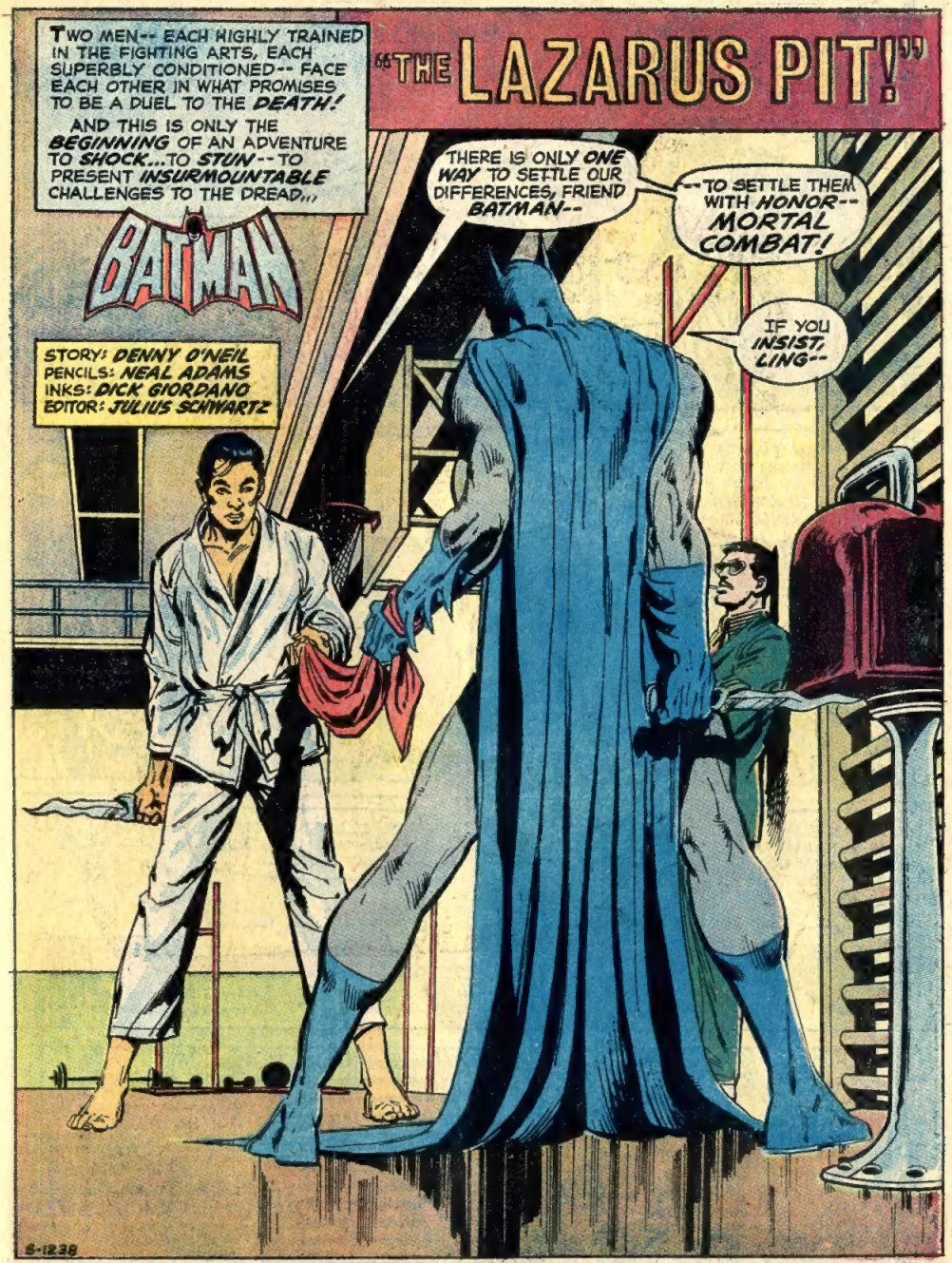
TWO MEN-- EACH HIGHLY TRAINED IN THE FIGHTING ARTS, EACH SUPERBLY CONDITIONED-- FACE EACH OTHER IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE A DUEL TO THE DEATH!
AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF AN ADVENTURE TO SHOCK...TO STUN--TO PRESENT INSURMOUNTABLE CHALLENGES TO THE DREAD...
"THE LAZARUS PIT!"
BATMAN
STORY: DENNY O'NEIL
PENCILS: NEAL ADAMS
INKS: DICK GIORDANO
EDITOR: JULIUS SCHWARTZ
THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES, FRIEND BATMAN--
--TO SETTLE THEM WITH HONOR-- MORTAL COMBAT!
IF YOU INSIST, LING--
S-1238

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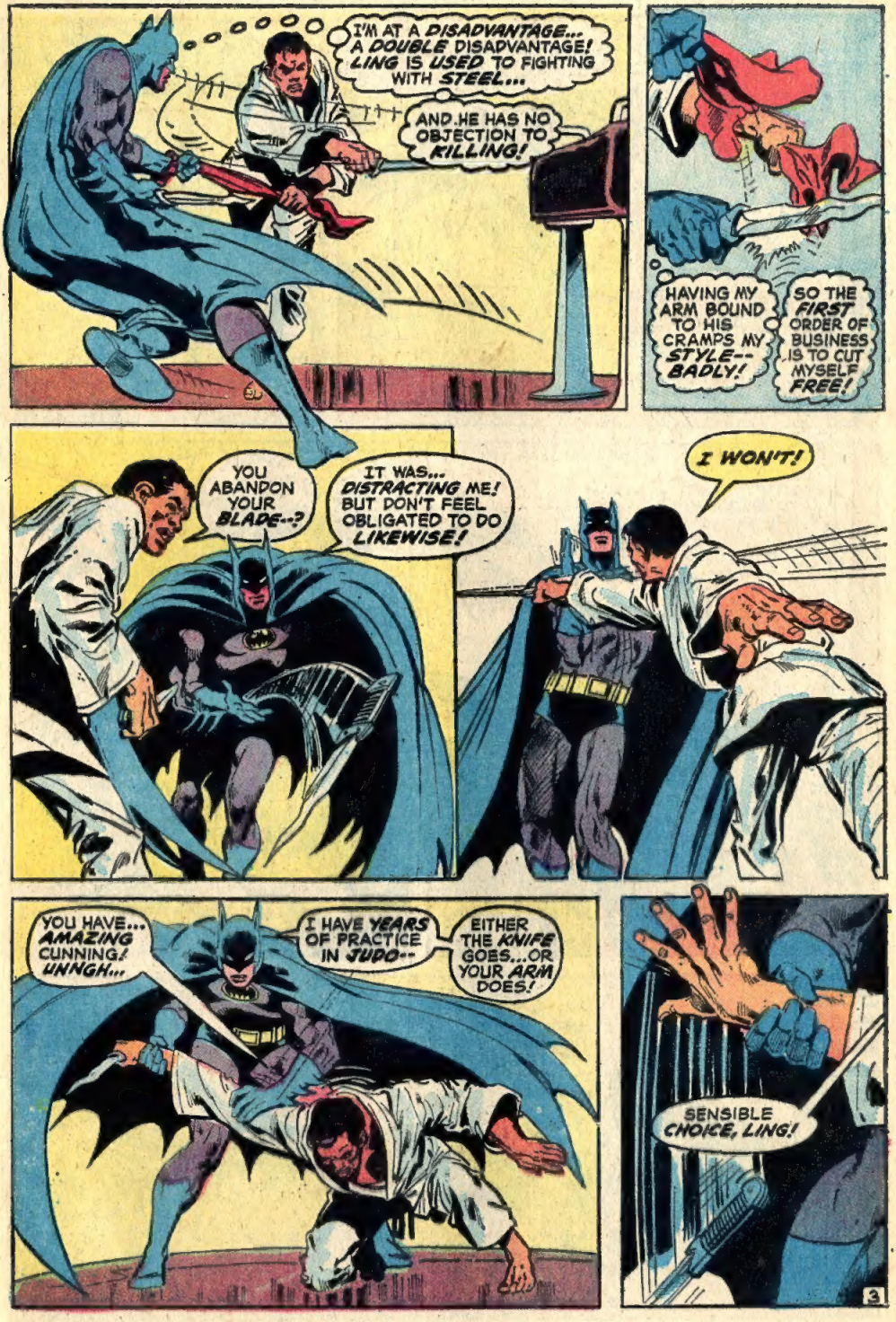
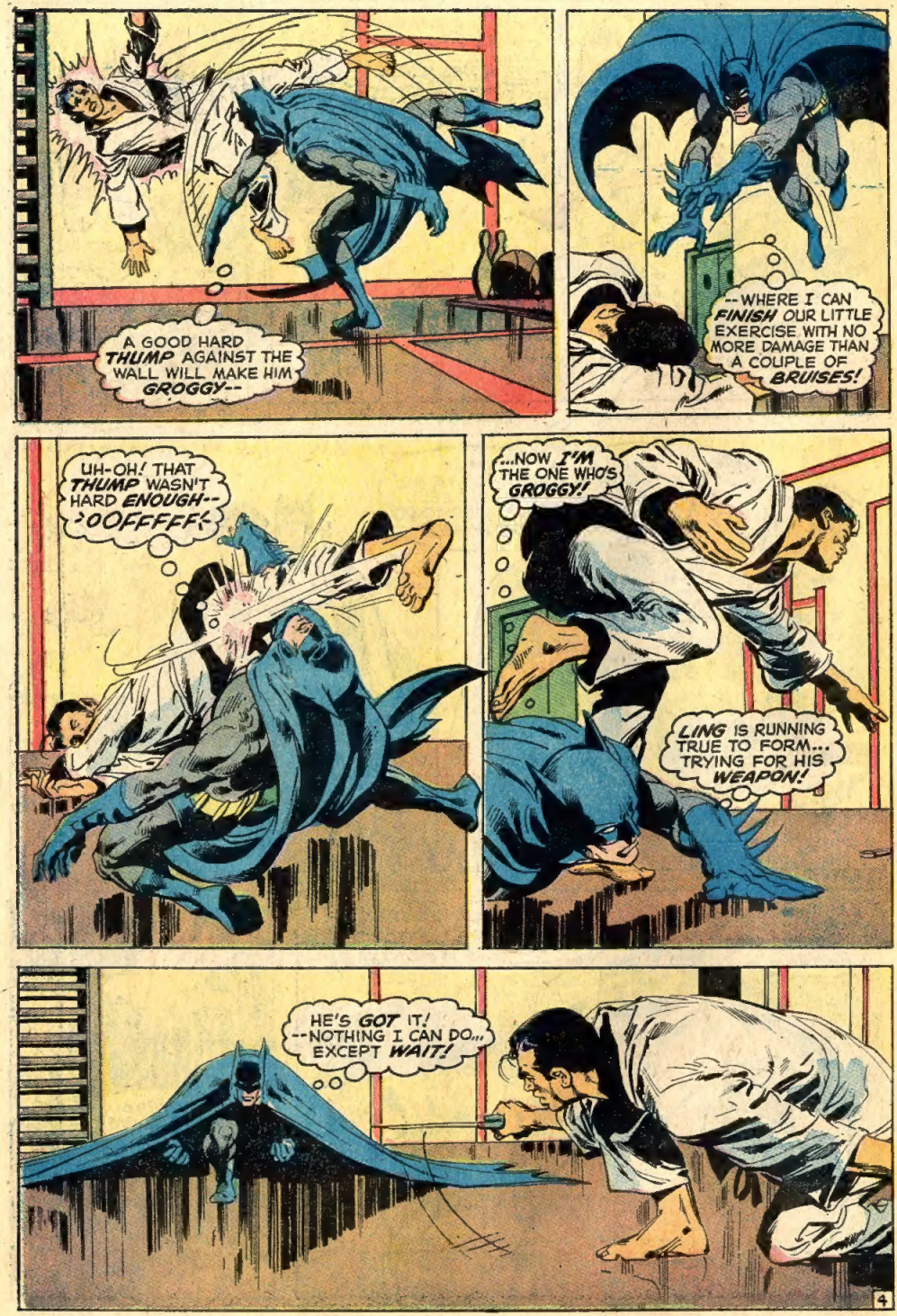
HEY... BEFORE YOU START CARVING... MIND TELLING ME THE BEEF? I THOUGHT YOU GUYS LIKED ONE ANOTHER!
NOT EXACTLY LIKE, MATCHES... MORE RESPECT!
I WILL EXPLAIN, GANGSTER -- MOST BRIEFLY!
SNIK
THE BATMAN SAVED MY LIFE! ACCORDING TO THE CUSTOMS OF MY PEOPLE, I AM THUS HIS TO COMMAND! I OWE HIM LOYALTY--
--AND HE ASKS I PAY HIM MY DEBT BY HELPING CAPTURE RA'S AL GHŪL!
HOWEVER, RA'S ALSO ONCE RESCUED ME FROM MORTAL PERIL! HENCE, MY LOYALTIES ARE DIVIDED!
THIS DILEMMA CAN BE SETTLED ONLY WITH BLOOD --THE BATMAN'S...
...OR MINE!
SOUNDS DUMB TO ME! BUT WHATTA I KNOW... I'M ONLY A WATERFRONT HIT-MAN!
OKAY, I'LL GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL--WHEN I STRIKE MY NEXT MATCH...
GO!
2


I'M AT A DISADVANTAGE... A DOUBLE DISADVANTAGE! LING IS USED TO FIGHTING WITH STEEL...
AND HE HAS NO OBJECTION TO KILLING!
HAVING MY ARM BOUND TO HIS CRAMPS MY STYLE--BADLY!
SO THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS IS TO CUT MYSELF FREE!
YOU ABANDON YOUR BLADE--?
IT WAS... DISTRACTING ME! BUT DON'T FEEL OBLIGATED TO DO LIKEWISE!
I WON'T!
YOU HAVE... AMAZING CUNNING! UNNGH...
I HAVE YEARS OF PRACTICE IN JUDO--
EITHER THE KNIFE GOES...OR YOUR ARM DOES!
SENSIBLE CHOICE, LING!
3

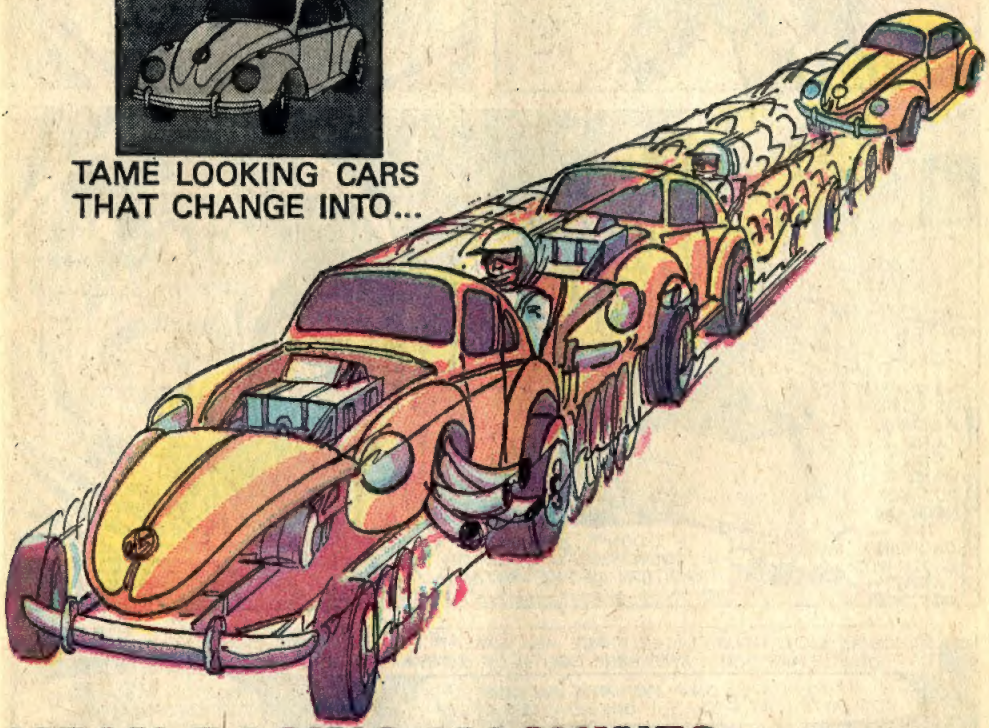

A GOOD HARD THUMP AGAINST THE WALL WILL MAKE HIM GROGGY--
--WHERE I CAN FINISH OUR LITTLE EXERCISE WITH NO MORE DAMAGE THAN A COUPLE OF BRUISES!
UH-OH! THAT THUMP WASN'T HARD ENOUGH--
OOFFFFF!
...NOW I'M THE ONE WHO'S GROGGY!
LING IS RUNNING TRUE TO FORM... TRYING FOR HIS WEAPON!
HE'S GOT IT! --NOTHING I CAN DO... EXCEPT WAIT!

FOR THESE TWO, THERE IS NO TIME, NO PLACE... ONLY BREATH EXPLODING FROM CLENCHED TEETH...
...THE AWFUL PAIN OF MUSCLE STRAINED TO THE VERY LIMIT, AND THE STENCH OF THE GRIMMEST OF STRUGGLES...
IT HAS TAKEN EXACTLY FOUR SECONDS...AND A LIFETIME!
5

TWICE YOU SPARED ME! BATMAN... I AM YOUR SERVANT--FOREVER!
SAVE IT, LING! I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THANKS!
JUST SEE THAT YOU KEEP YOUR PART OF THE BARGAIN--!
MEET ME AT THE AIRFIELD TOMORROW MORNING AT EIGHT!
AS I AM HONORABLE--I SHALL BE THERE!
I WISH YOU HADN'T TAKEN SO LONG TO CLOBBER HIM! I WAS WORRIED FOR A WHILE!
MAKES A PAIR OF US, CHUM!
BETTER PEEL YOURSELF OUT OF THE DISGUISE!
SHUCKS...I WAS ENJOYING BEING AS BIG AS YOU!
I HATE TO SPOIL YOUR FUN, ROBIN--BUT IT'S MY TURN TO ASSUME MATCHES MALONE'S IDENTITY!
THIS INFLATABLE BODY STOCKING YOU INVENTED IS FAR OUT!
HEY--CAN YOU EXPLAIN WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I'M PUZZLED... YOU FAKE THE DEATH OF BRUCE WAYNE IN A PLANE-CRASH--
--AND YOU STAGE A CHARADE! DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
IT'S NOT WORTH WORRYING ABOUT, KID! JUST A SMALL-POTATOES CAPER I CAN HANDLE SOLO--WITH NO STRAIN!
YOU'D BETTER BE HEADING BACK TOWARD HUDSON UNIVERSITY!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
6

THE IMPOSTERS™

TAME LOOKING CARS
THAT CHANGE INTO...



MEAN RACING MACHINES

The Imposters. You have to see them do their stuff. Take hold of the stick shift and get ready for a shock. Suddenly a mild mannered street machine changes into nearly a foot of road gobbling racing machine. Front end out. Engine up. 400 cubes. Then up pops the driver, ready to cut down all comers. The Imposters. **They're a lot more car than meets the eye.**

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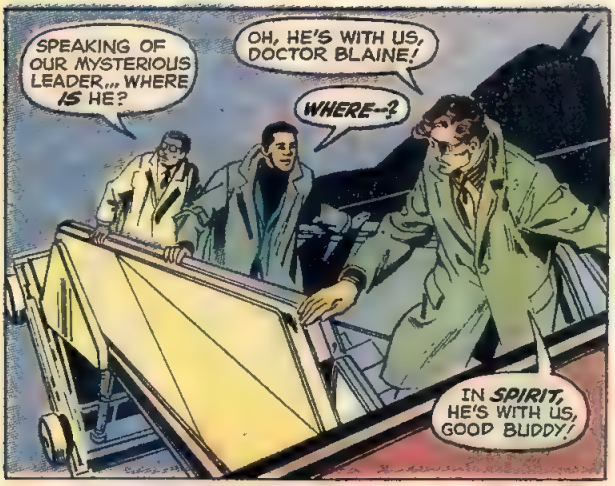
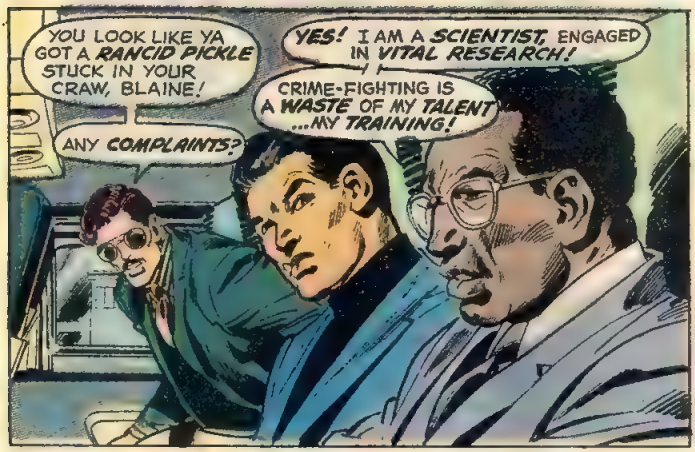
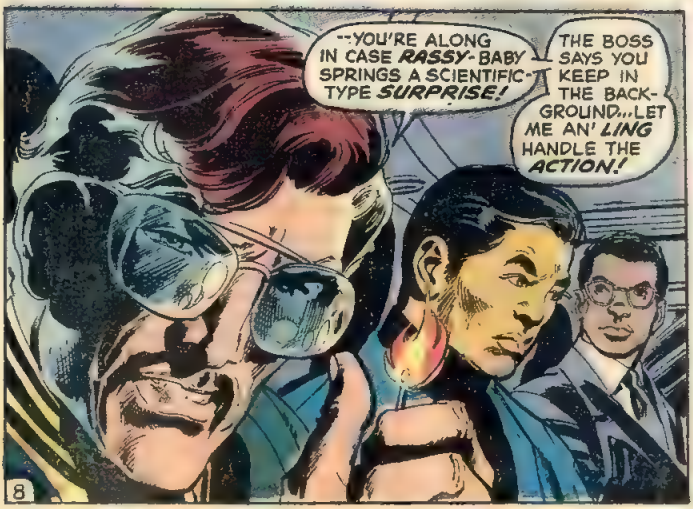
THANKS FOR THE PLAY-ACTING! UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER--SO LONG!
'BYE... AND LUCK!
I DON'T DARE TELL ROBIN THE TRUTH--
--THAT I'M GOING AFTER THE MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL GENIUS I'VE EVER MET...
--OR HEARD OF!--RA'S AL GHŪL!
HE'D INSIST ON COMING ALONG! AND I DON'T WANT TO PUT HIS NECK ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK WITH MINE--
IF I DON'T... SURVIVE... IT'LL BE UP TO ROBIN TO CARRY ON THE TRADITION OF THE BATMAN!
MAYBE I'M OVERLY PROUD... IN FEELING IT'S A GOOD TRADITION!
PRECISELY EIGHT HOURS LATER, THREE MEN ASSEMBLE ON THE WIND-CHILLED FLIGHT-LINE OF A PRIVATE AIRFIELD SOMEWHERE SOUTH OF GOTHAM CITY...
I AM TO TRAVEL ON A PRIVATE AIRCRAFT? HOW DIFFERENT FROM THE CONVEYANCES OF MY ANCESTORS...
WHEN YA WORK FOR THE BATMAN, YA ALWAYS GO IN STYLE!

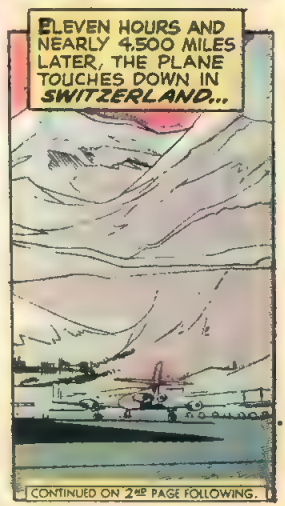

SPEAKING OF OUR MYSTERIOUS LEADER,,, WHERE IS HE?
OH, HE'S WITH US, DOCTOR BLAINE!
WHERE--?
IN SPIRIT, HE'S WITH US, GOOD BUDDY!

MAY I ASK OUR DESTINA-TION?
MY INFORMANTS TELL ME RÄS IS AT HIS CHALET IN THE SWISS ALPS!


YOU LOOK LIKE YA GOT A RANCID PICKLE STUCK IN YOUR CRAW, BLAINE!
YES! I AM A SCIENTIST, ENGAGED IN VITAL RESEARCH!
CRIME-FIGHTING IS A WASTE OF MY TALENT ...MY TRAINING!
ANY COMPLAINTS?

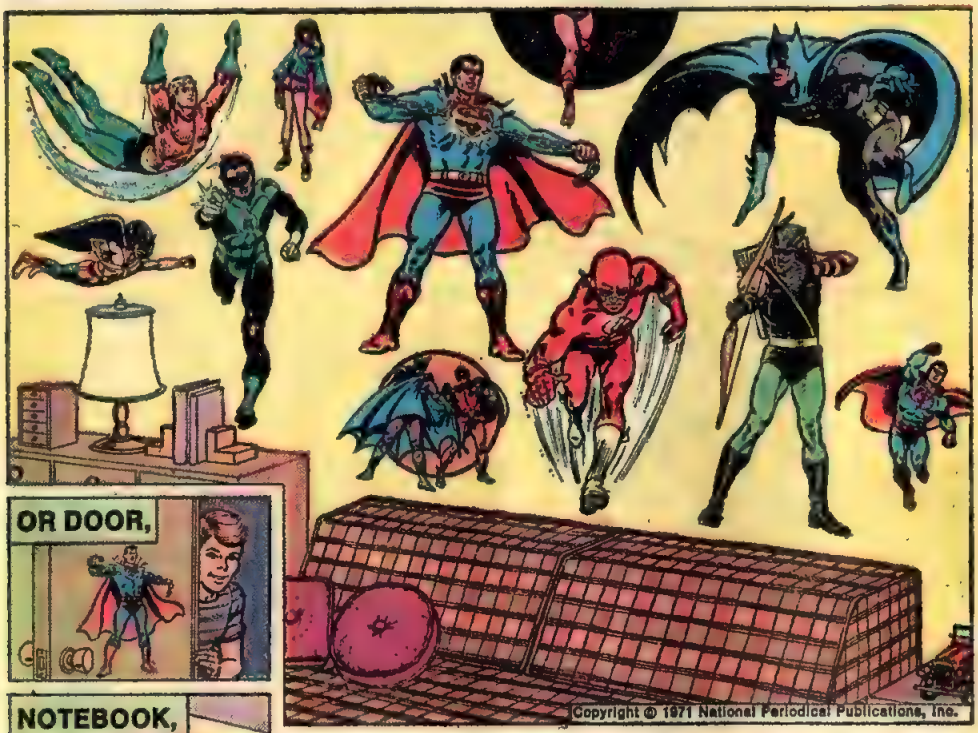
DON'T SWEAT IT, PALLY! YOU AIN'T GONNA BE RISKIN' YOUR HIDE--

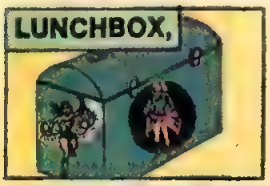

--YOU'RE ALONG IN CASE RASSY-BABY SPRINGS A SCIENTIFIC-TYPE SURPRISE!
THE BOSS SAYS YOU KEEP IN THE BACK-GROUND,,,LET ME AN' LING HANDLE THE ACTION!

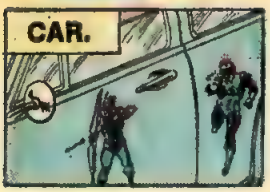

ELEVEN HOURS AND NEARLY 4,500 MILES LATER, THE PLANE TOUCHES DOWN IN SWITZERLAND...
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

SUPER-HERO STICK-ONS!

Stick your favorites up against the wall...







Here are full-color "stick-on" pictures of Superman, Batman, Robin, Supergirl, Green Lantern, Green Arrow, Aquaman, Wonder Woman, Hawkman, Flash—available for the first time together in one package. They come on a mammoth 20" by 26" sheet, ready to peel off and stick on any flat surface. No adhesives, tacks, or tape needed.

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Enclosed is cash, check or M.O. for _____

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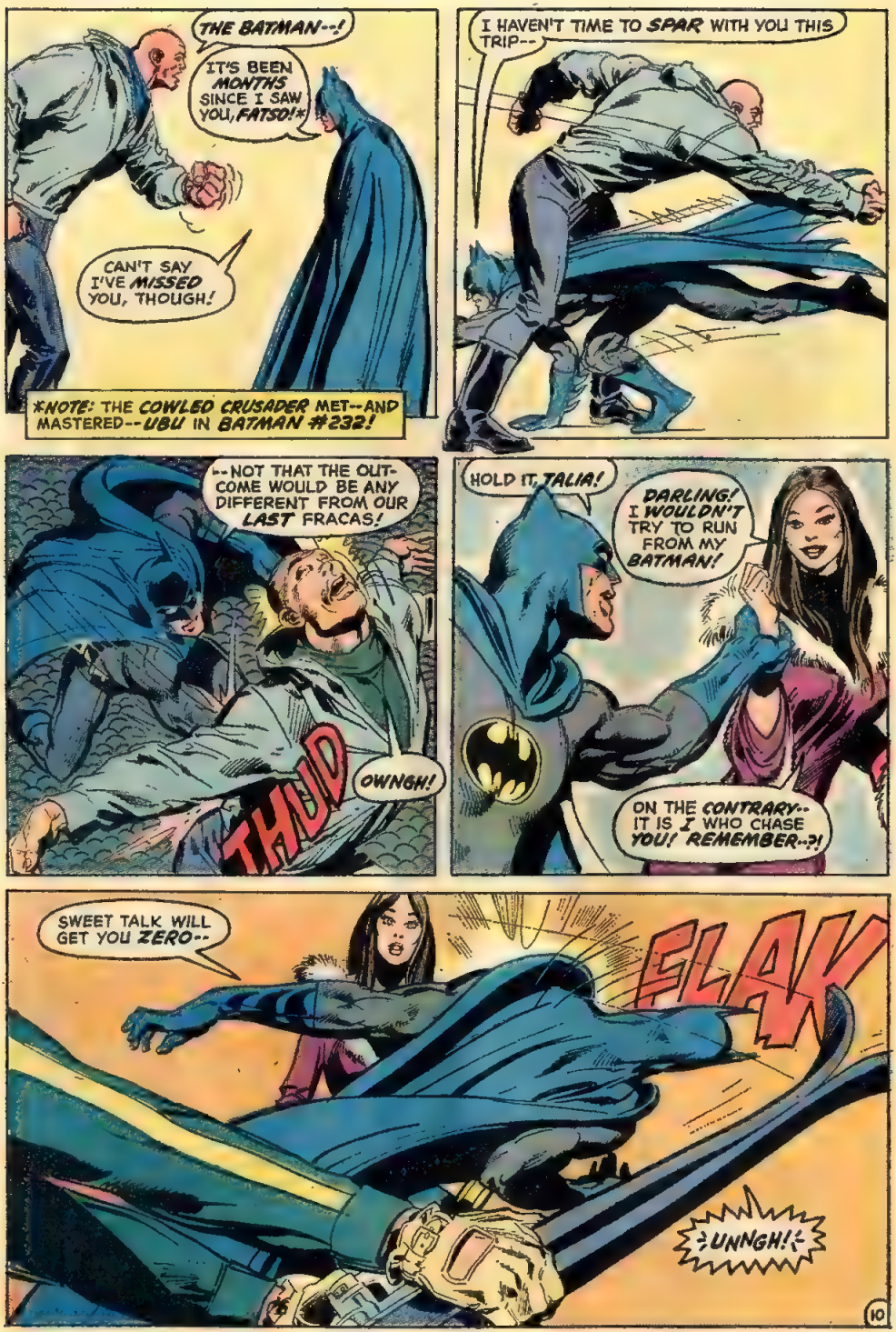
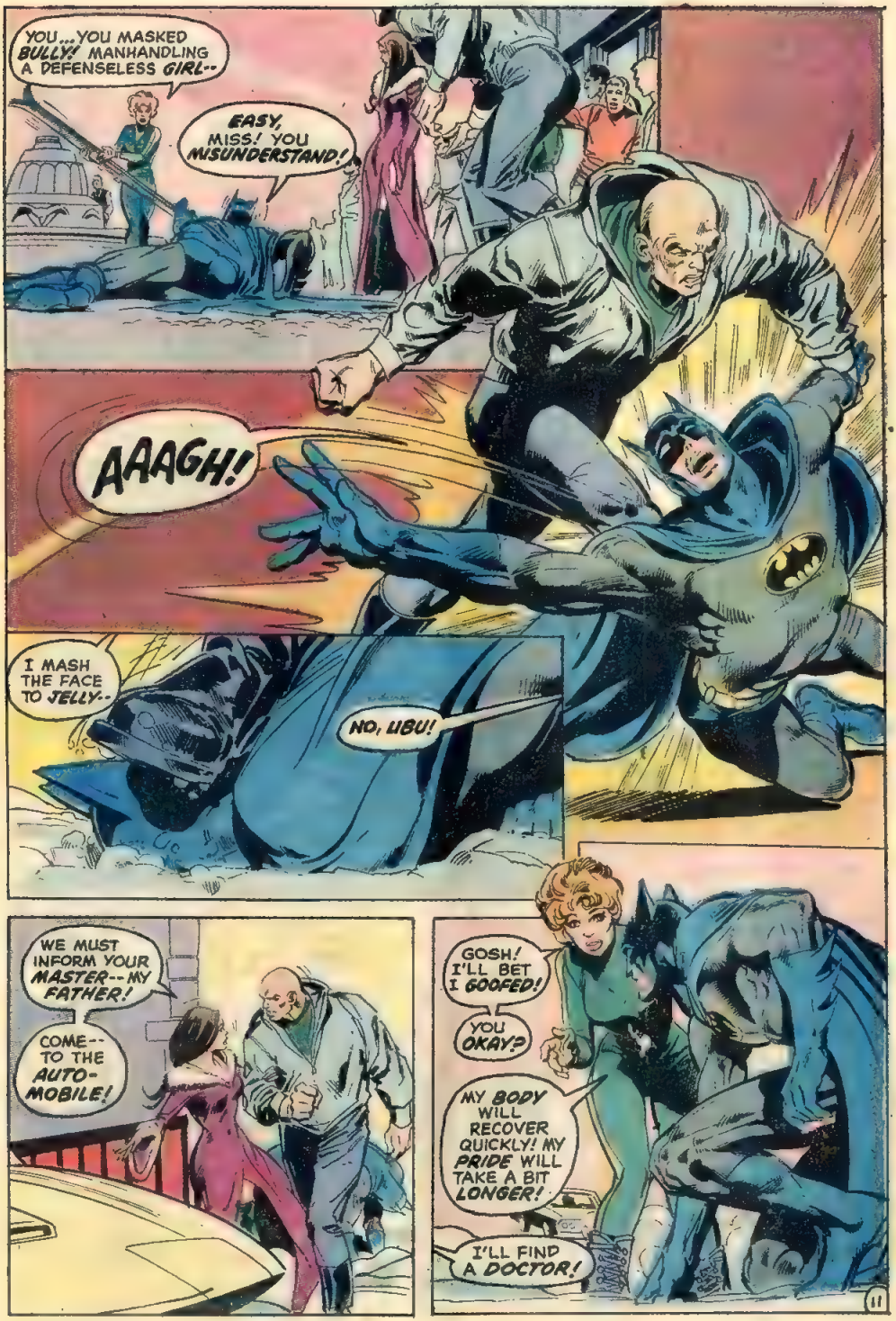
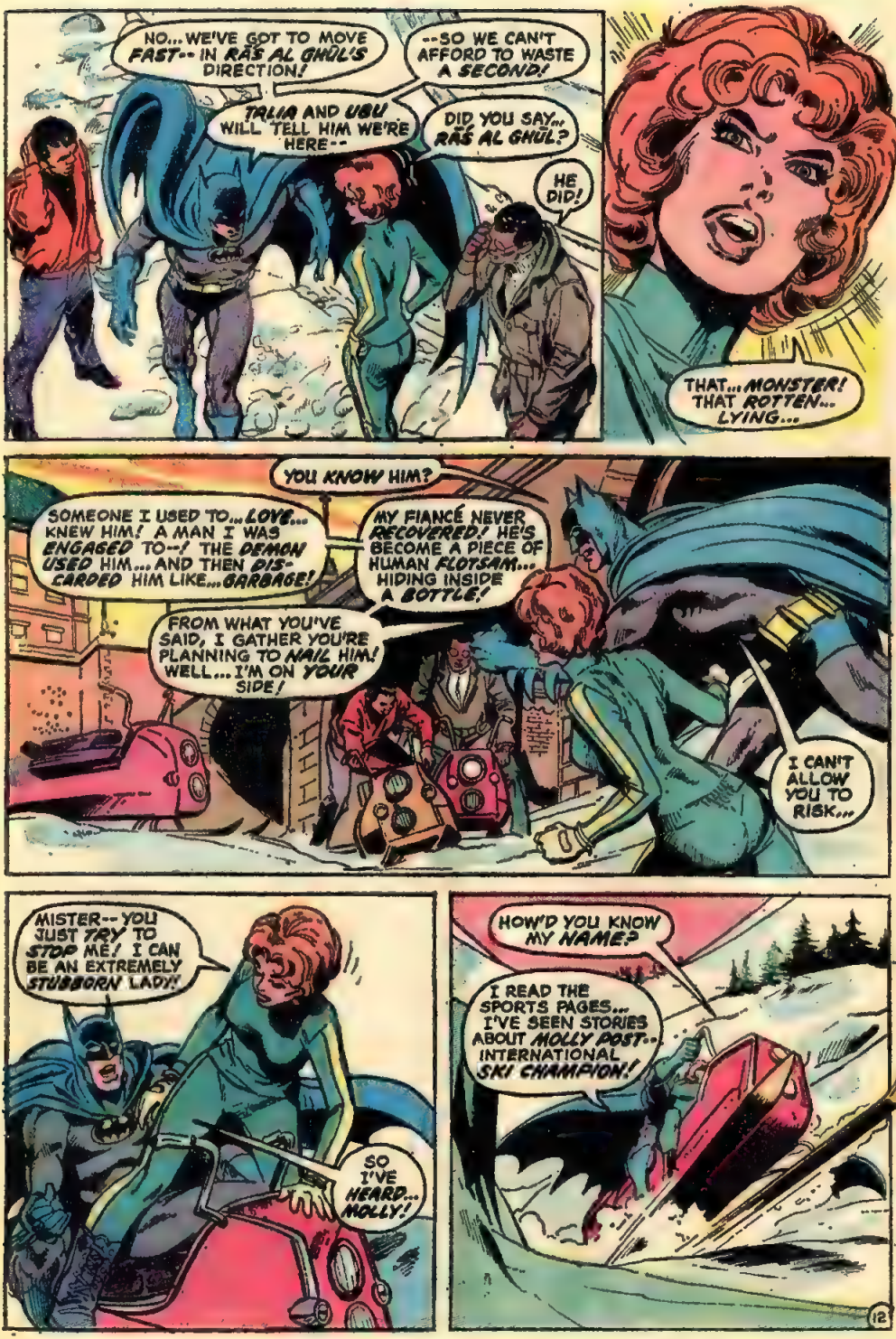
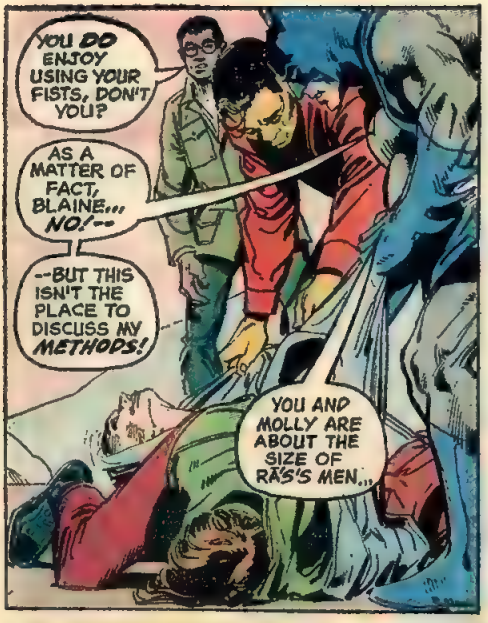
SOON, PASSING THROUGH CUSTOMS...
YOU GUYS CHECK IN THE HOTEL! I'M GONNA LOOK UP A PAL! WE ONCE SHARED A CELL!
MEET YA FOR EATS!
A CHARMING AVENUE! I'VE HEARD IT SAID THE SWISS ARE THE MOST CIVILIZED--
LOOK!-- IN THE CROWD! IT IS TALIA... DAUGHTER OF THE HEAD DEMON, RAS!
I SHALL PLEASE THE BATMAN BY CAPTURING HER!
WAIT!
LING!-- ALLY OF MY FATHER!
NO LONGER! I SERVE HIS ENEMY!
...THE BATM-NNGH!
STAND ASIDE, FOOLS! MY MASTER'S CHILD WOULD HAVE PASSAGE!
YOU'RE NOT BEING POLITE, UBU!
9


THE BATMAN--!
IT'S BEEN MONTHS SINCE I SAW YOU, FATSO!*
CAN'T SAY I'VE MISSED YOU, THOUGH!
*NOTE: THE COWLED CRUSADER MET--AND MASTERED--UBU IN BATMAN #232!
I HAVEN'T TIME TO SPAR WITH YOU THIS TRIP--
--NOT THAT THE OUTCOME WOULD BE ANY DIFFERENT FROM OUR LAST FRACAS!
THUD
OWNGH!
HOLD IT, TALIA!
DARLING! I WOULDN'T TRY TO RUN FROM MY BATMAN!
ON THE CONTRARY-- IT IS I WHO CHASE YOU! REMEMBER--?!
SWEET TALK WILL GET YOU ZERO--
FLAK
UNNGH!


YOU...YOU MASKED BULLY! MANHANDLING A DEFENSELESS GIRL--
EASY, MISS! YOU MISUNDERSTAND!
AAAGH!
I MASH THE FACE TO JELLY--
NO, LIBU!
WE MUST INFORM YOUR MASTER--MY FATHER!
COME-- TO THE AUTO-MOBILE!
GOSH! I'LL BET I GOOFED!
YOU OKAY?
MY BODY WILL RECOVER QUICKLY! MY PRIDE WILL TAKE A BIT LONGER!
I'LL FIND A DOCTOR!


NO... WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST-- IN RAS AL GHUL'S DIRECTION!
--SO WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WASTE A SECOND!
TALIA AND UBU WILL TELL HIM WE'RE HERE--
DID YOU SAY... RAS AL GHUL?
HE DID!
THAT... MONSTER! THAT ROTTEN... LYING...
YOU KNOW HIM?
SOMEONE I USED TO... LOVE... KNEW HIM! A MAN I WAS ENGAGED TO--! THE DEMON USED HIM... AND THEN DISCARDED HIM LIKE... GARBAGE!
MY FIANCÉ NEVER RECOVERED! HE'S BECOME A PIECE OF HUMAN FLOTSAM... HIDING INSIDE A BOTTLE!
FROM WHAT YOU'VE SAID, I GATHER YOU'RE PLANNING TO NAIL HIM! WELL... I'M ON YOUR SIDE!
I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO RISK...
MISTER-- YOU JUST TRY TO STOP ME! I CAN BE AN EXTREMELY STUBBORN LADY!
SO I'VE HEARD... MOLLY!
HOW'D YOU KNOW MY NAME?
I READ THE SPORTS PAGES... I'VE SEEN STORIES ABOUT MOLLY POST-- INTERNATIONAL SKI CHAMPION!
12

THE BATMAN ISN'T EXACTLY A STRANGER TO THE NEWSPAPERS, EITHER!
WE'LL EXCHANGE COMPLIMENTS LATER, MOLLY! UNLESS I MISREAD LING, WE'VE ARRIVED!
YES! LOOK--
IT IS RA'S AL GHUL'S PRIVATE CABLE CAR!
BY THIS-- AND NOTHING ELSE-- CAN ONE REACH HIS MOUNTAIN RETREAT!
WE MUST CONCEIVE A SCHEME FOR GETTING CONTROL OF THE CAR--
UH-UH... TALIA MAY HAVE ALREADY WARNED HER FATHER!
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE OUR MOVE NOW!
DIRECT ACTION IS CALLED FOR, LING!
--LET'S GO!
13


YOU DO ENJOY USING YOUR FISTS, DON'T YOU?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, BLAINE... NO!--
--BUT THIS ISN'T THE PLACE TO DISCUSS MY METHODS!
YOU AND MOLLY ARE ABOUT THE SIZE OF RA'S'S MEN...

THUS, WITHIN MINUTES...
THE CABLE CAR APPROACHES!
THE MASTER CAUTIONS THERE MAY BE TREACHERY!
OUR ORDERS ARE TO EXAMINE IT CAREFULLY--!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

You Receive
2 GIANT BATTLEFIELDS a total size of 3 square feet. (Six Islands in the Pacific Ocean beautifully colored.)
88 PIECE TASK FORCE IN GRAY & GREEN
4 AIRCRAFT CARRIERS
4 DESTROYERS
4 BATTLESHIPS
16 TANKS WITH MOVEABLE TURRETS
24 PILL BOXES
24 PLANES
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4 HEADQUARTERS
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375 RED MARKERS—enough to record the massive bombings and shellings.
Simple directions for a tense battle on land, sea and air. The general best able to strategically place his forces and direct his firing will be the only survivor of this terrific battle.
There is no imagination necessary here!! You get the equipment, the battlefield and the rules on how to Locate, Occupy and Destroy the enemy. This is not just another juvenile game, it is actually played and tremendously enjoyed by over 200,000 people including members of our real Armed Forces.
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$1.69 & up PLUS POSTAGE
EXPLODING BRIDGES ACTUALLY BLOW APART RIGHT OFF THE RIVER
YOU RECEIVE
A COMPLETE GAME
• A GIANT 3 SQUARE FOOT PLASTIC BATTLEFIELD in color, depicting Chickamauga "the river of death" appropriately named by Indians as 34,400 troops were killed or wounded there..
• 1 HUGE REALISTIC CONFEDERATE STOCKADE FORT
• 4 STOCKADE GATES — open to attack — close for defense.
• 1 HUGE REALISTIC UNION STOCKADE FORT
• 4 SHELTERED OBSERVATION TOWERS* • 2 FORT FLAGS with masts
• 6 FIELD CANNONS* — 12 spoked wheels
• 2 ARMIES* 64 Troops in Blue and Grey, fully equipped and in all battle positions
• 25 RED TNT BOXES • FORT COMMANDER • 6 EXPLODING BRIDGES*
• SIMPLE DIRECTIONS for fighting your way across the battlefield with enough men and equipment to attack and capture the enemy fort.
*3 D plastic safe and reusable
2 FORTS SPLIT LOGTITE
TASK FORCE sells in stores for $3.00
To offer it to you for the amazingly low price of $1.69 we omitted the bulky box, wholesaler and retailer. ACT NOW to save $3.31
NOW! ALL FULL SCALE BATTLE GAMES PROCESSED IN 48 HOURS & SHIPPED IN HANDSOME SIMULATED BOOK FORM-ONLY!
CANNON BALL
THIS GAME IS DEDICATED TO FIGHTING HEROES OF CHICKAMAUGA
BLUE-GREY
HELEN OF TOY, CO.
Commack, New York 11725
NO C.O.D.'s
DEPT. 254- J7
Please RUSH me the item(s) I have checked I have added the proper postage & price and enclosed the correct total. I may return each item in 10 days for a refund if they don't beat games costing 3x as much!!
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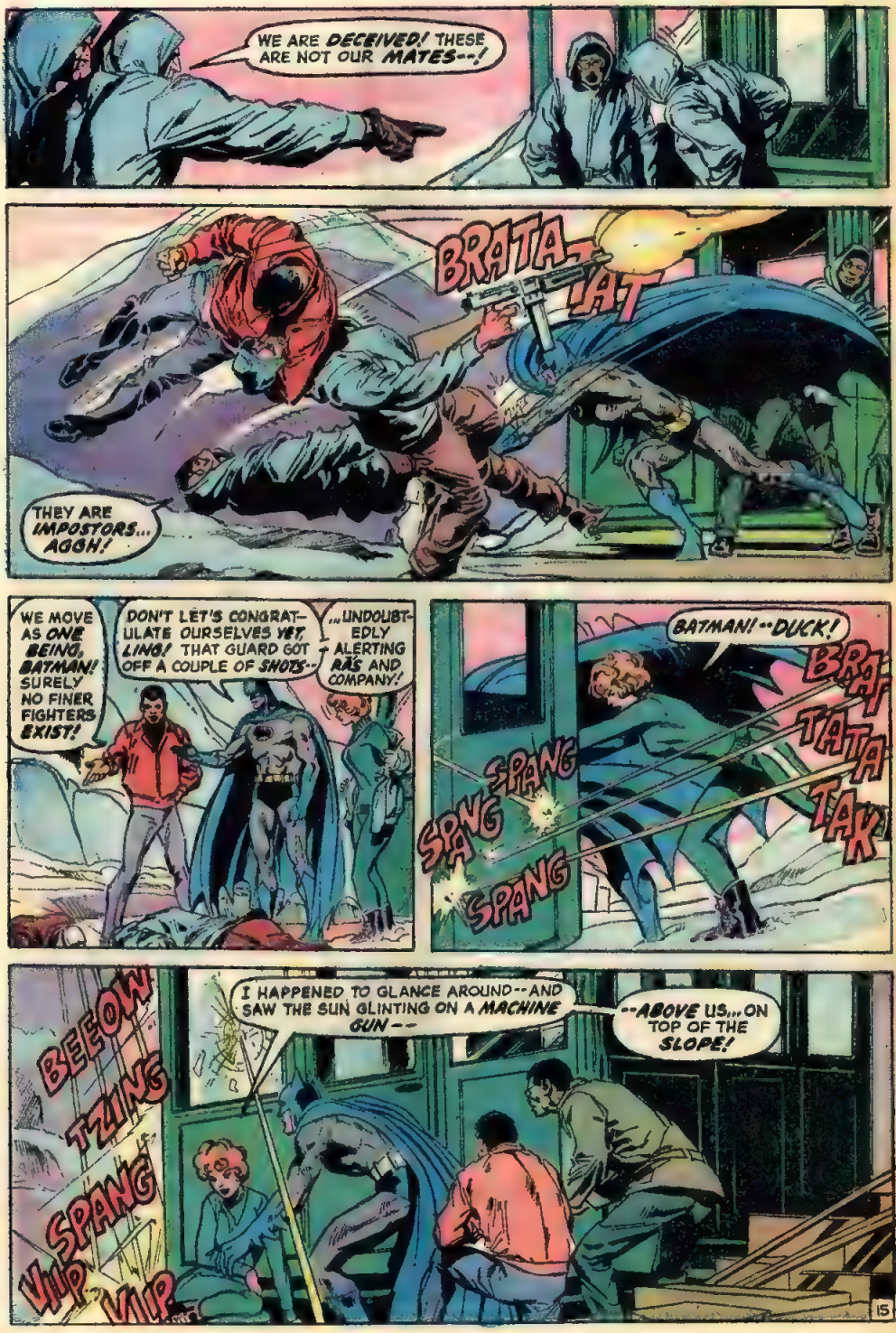
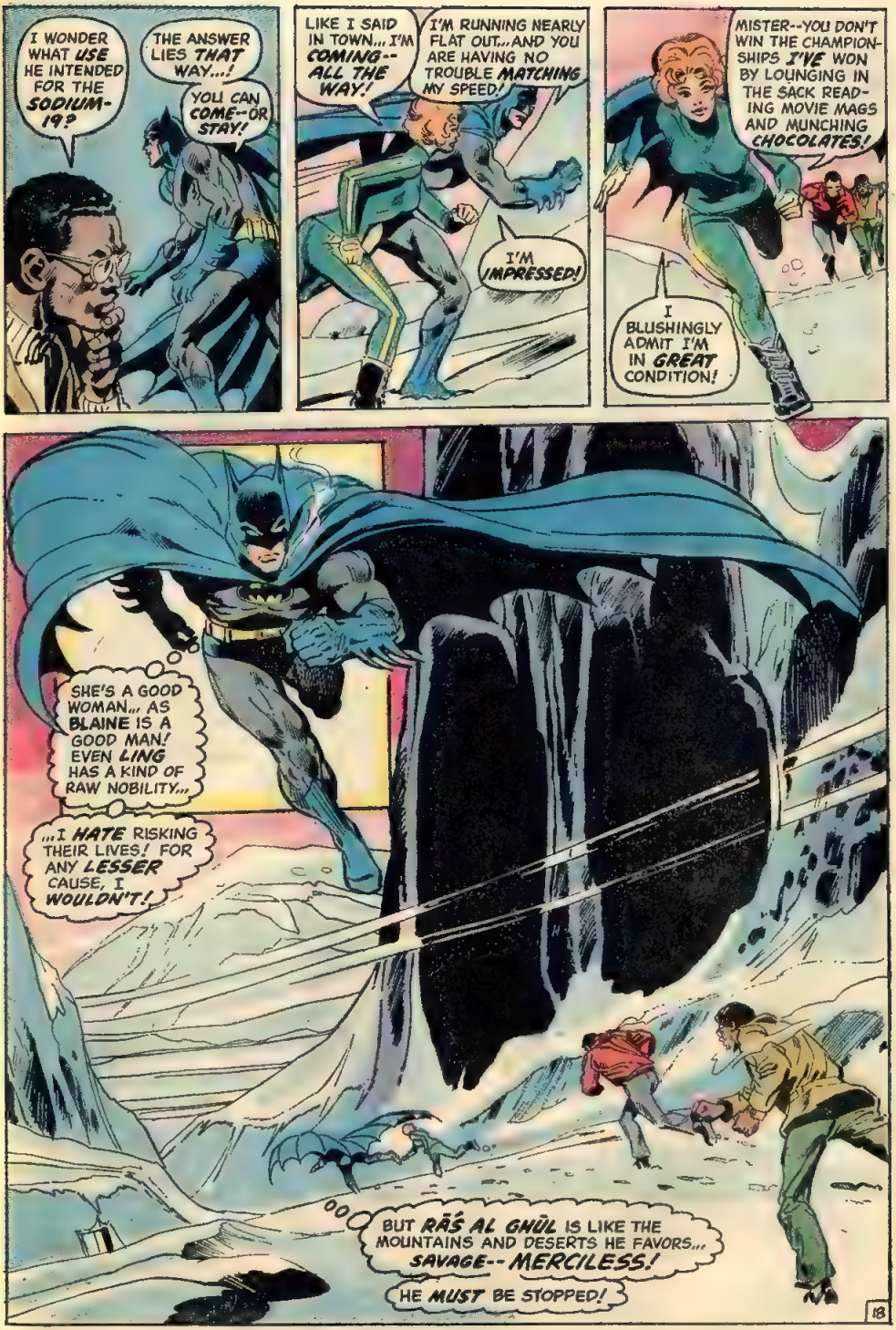
ORDER TODAY TO RECEIVE FREE! A "CHESS" GAME PLUS A CATALOG WITH EACH ORDER - Please don't delay your order(s) by forgetting to ADD POSTAGE to price on EACH of the items ordered!


WE ARE DECEIVED! THESE ARE NOT OUR MATES--!
BRATA-TAT
THEY ARE IMPOSTORS... AGGH!
WE MOVE AS ONE BEING, BATMAN! SURELY NO FINER FIGHTERS EXIST!
DON'T LET'S CONGRATULATE OURSELVES YET, LING! THAT GUARD GOT OFF A COUPLE OF SHOTS--
...UNDOUBTEDLY ALERTING RAS AND COMPANY!
BATMAN! --DUCK!
BRA TATA TAK
SPANG SPANG SPANG
BEEOW TZING SPANG VIIP VIIP
I HAPPENED TO GLANCE AROUND--AND SAW THE SUN GLINTING ON A MACHINE GUN--
--ABOVE US,... ON TOP OF THE SLOPE!
15

BRATATAT
TATATATATAK
IT'S IN A CONCRETE BUNKER... A RELIC OF WORLD WAR TWO--
--IT WOULD TAKE A MORTAR TO KNOCK THEM OUT--
SPANG VIIP TZING
SEEANG
--AND WE DON'T HAVE SO MUCH AS A BEAN-SHOOTER!
WE MAY HAVE SOMETHING BETTER, MISS POST!--THIS!
YOU WILL BEST THE FIREARM BY THROWING A ROCK AT IT, ESTEEMED SCIENTIST?
NOT A ROCK, LING! A BAR OF SODIUM-19!
I FOUND IT WHILE WE WERE RIDING UP HERE, IN ONE OF THESE CRATES!
ORDINARY SODIUM REACTS VIOLENTLY WITH WATER! THE SODIUM-19 ISOTOPE...
BRATTATATATAT
SPANG SPANG VIIP
...WELL, I CAN DEMONSTRATE EASIER THAN I CAN EXPLAIN!
I USED TO THROW A PRETTY MEAN JAVELIN IN COLLEGE--!
AND THE BAR IS THE RIGHT WEIGHT...
16

TAK KATAK...
KATAKATAK
SUK
I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO LAND IT DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE BUNKER...
THE WET SNOW WILL TOUCH THE METAL...
HOLD YOUR EARS..!
KA-WHOOOOM
HEY, BUDDY...YOUR SCIENTIFIC SAVVY GOT US CLEAR OF A REAL PICKLE!
WE ARE FORTUNATE RÁS REQUIRED SUCH AN EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE!
THE MACHINE GUNNERS WILL SURVIVE, I IMAGINE!
BUT THEY'LL BE A WHILE RECOVERING FROM THE SHOCK-WAVE!


I WONDER WHAT USE HE INTENDED FOR THE SODIUM-19?
THE ANSWER LIES THAT WAY...!
YOU CAN COME--OR STAY!
LIKE I SAID IN TOWN... I'M COMING-- ALL THE WAY!
I'M RUNNING NEARLY FLAT OUT... AND YOU ARE HAVING NO TROUBLE MATCHING MY SPEED!
I'M IMPRESSED!
MISTER--YOU DON'T WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS I'VE WON BY LOUNGING IN THE SACK READING MOVIE MAGS AND MUNCHING CHOCOLATES!
I BLUSHINGLY ADMIT I'M IN GREAT CONDITION!
SHE'S A GOOD WOMAN... AS BLAINE IS A GOOD MAN! EVEN LING HAS A KIND OF RAW NOBILITY...
...I HATE RISKING THEIR LIVES! FOR ANY LESSER CAUSE, I WOULDN'T!
BUT RĀS AL GHŪL IS LIKE THE MOUNTAINS AND DESERTS HE FAVORS... SAVAGE-- MERCILESS!
HE MUST BE STOPPED!

THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE ENTRANCE TO THE DEMON'S LAIR!
UNGUARDED? NOT LIKELY!
IT WAS GUARDED-- BY THOSE WE DEFEATED!
LING HAS A POINT! WE MAY BE STANDING NEAR A TRAP!
THAT'S WHY I AM GOING FIRST!
--AND ALONE!
KRAK
BE CAREFUL!
THE BATMAN!
YOU NEVER TIRE OF GASPING MY NAME, HUH, UBU?
A FEW HOURS AGO, YOU PUT YOUR FOOT IN MY FACE!
I'M ABOUT TO RETURN THE FAVOR--
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
19

Send For Free Information On How

YOU, TOO, CAN OWN A POWER-PACK BODY

Like These Weider Pupils and Champions!

LARRY SCOTT
"MR. AMERICA"
"MR. UNIVERSE"

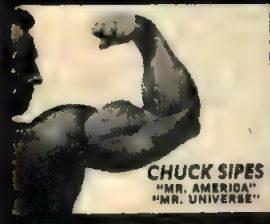
Twice "Mr. Olympia" winner—Larry stands 5' 9", weighs 205 lbs. and has a 20" pair of arms! He is considered one of the world's best-built men—but he was a 135-lb. weakling before mailing the coupon! This Can Happen To You Too!

FREDDY ORTIZ
"MR. AMERICA"
"MR. UNIVERSE"

Winner—Freddy stands 5' 5", weighs 165 lbs. of rock-hard muscle. His arms measure 18" and he is considered the best-built short man in the world. Yet, he was a 115-lb. skinny weakling before sending in the coupon! Why Not You?

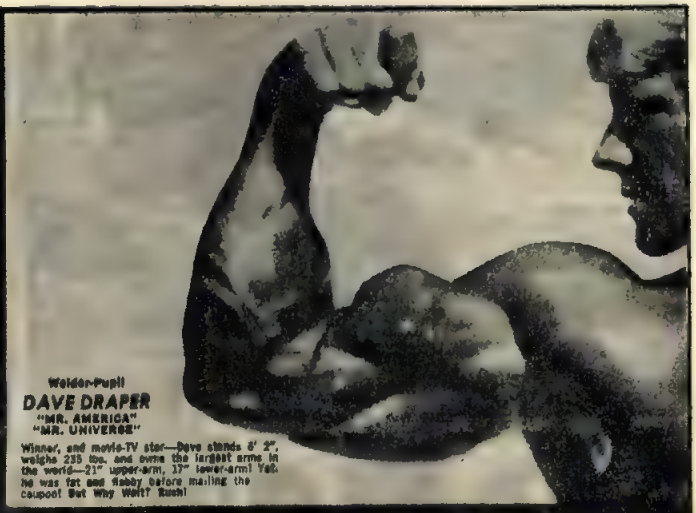
RICKY WAYNE
"MR. EUROPE"
"MR. UNIVERSE"

Winner—Ricky is 5' 6", weighs 190 lbs. of Herculean muscle. His arms measure a full 19¼", and he is considered the best-built man in Europe today. He weighed a pitiful 123 lbs. before sending the coupon! And It Can Happen To You!



CHUCK SIPES
"MR. AMERICA"
"MR. UNIVERSE"

Winner—Chuck stands 6', weighs 220 lbs., and has a pair of 20" arms! Among the strongest men in the world! He was a 145-lb. weakling before sending in the coupon! Why Not You?



Welder-Pupil
DAVE DRAPER
"MR. AMERICA"
"MR. UNIVERSE"

Winner, and movie-TV star—Dave stands 6' 2", weighs 235 lbs. and owns the largest arms in the world—21" upper-arm, 17" lower-arm! Yet, he was fat and flabby before mailing the coupon! But Why Wait? Rush!

FREE! MUSCLE COURSE THAT CAN ADD 3 INCHES TO YOUR ARMS *FAST!*

...AND MAKE YOU INTO AN ATHLETIC VIRILE HE-MAN!!

In half the time, with twice the ease, in the privacy of your own room, in just a few minutes a day, I will, through my "TRIPLE-PROGRESSION COURSE" that I want to send you FREE, guarantee that virtually overnight, you will experience a muscle-building miracle! Before your eyes you'll slap on inches of steel-hard muscles to your pipe-stem arms, pack your chest with power and size, give yourself life-guard shoulders, dynamic, speedy, athletic legs. Add jet-charged strength to every muscle in your body. I don't care if, today, you own the scraggiest, flabbiest, skinniest or funniest-looking body, whether you're tall or short, young or not-so-young, skinny or fat, office-worker, laborer, school-boy or businessman, I must make a new, virile he-man out of you—with handsome muscles bursting out all over! They will ripple with power, vibrate with energy! And for the fist time in your life, men will envy your body—women admire it, because at last you will own a body that brings you fame instead of shame! What I did for Dave Draper "Mr. Universe" winner, and for hundreds of other champions since 1936, I am ready to do for you! A-C-T-I-O-N is the key to strength! Fill out the coupon below NOW! Rush it to me—and in hours, with no charge to you—at my own expense, you too, like Dave Draper did, will start putting an end to your weakness! You have nothing to lose but your weakness! ACT NOW!—SUPPLY IS LIMITED!

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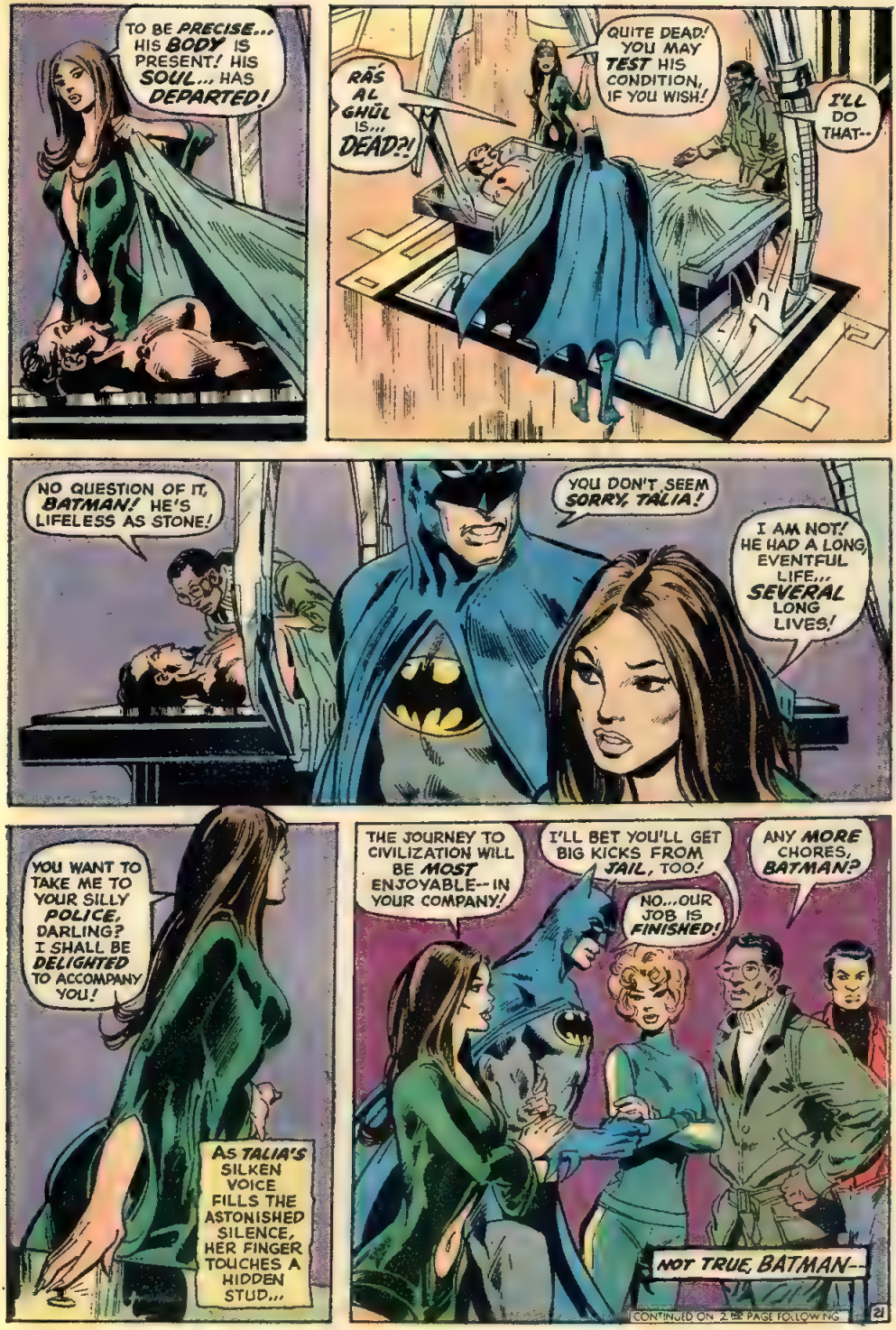
HE'LL SLEEP THE SLEEP OF THE FAT, UGLY AND STUPID...
BATMAN! BEHIND YOU!
IT'S DAUGHTER TALIA!
SHE WAS TIPPY-TOEING TOWARD YOU!
I'M BETTING HER PRETTY HEAD IS LOADED WITH PURE NASTY!
ON THE CONTRARY! I MEAN MY DARLING BATMAN NO HARM--
I MEANT ONLY TO... GREET HIM!
YOUR LIPS ARE WARM, AS ALWAYS!--AND AS ALWAYS, THEY CHILL ME... TO THE MARROW!
I'D SOONER BE PECKED BY A RATTLESNAKE!
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'RE WILLING TO TELL WHERE YOUR FATHER IS?
GLADLY, DARLING! HE IS PRESENT--
20


TO BE PRECISE... HIS BODY IS PRESENT! HIS SOUL... HAS DEPARTED!
RÂS AL GHÛL IS... DEAD?!
QUITE DEAD! YOU MAY TEST HIS CONDITION, IF YOU WISH!
I'LL DO THAT--
NO QUESTION OF IT, BATMAN! HE'S LIFELESS AS STONE!
YOU DON'T SEEM SORRY, TÂLIA!
I AM NOT! HE HAD A LONG, EVENTFUL LIFE... SEVERAL LONG LIVES!
YOU WANT TO TAKE ME TO YOUR SILLY POLICE, DARLING? I SHALL BE DELIGHTED TO ACCOMPANY YOU!
AS TALIA'S SILKEN VOICE FILLS THE ASTONISHED SILENCE, HER FINGER TOUCHES A HIDDEN STUD...
THE JOURNEY TO CIVILIZATION WILL BE MOST ENJOYABLE-- IN YOUR COMPANY!
I'LL BET YOU'LL GET BIG KICKS FROM JAIL, TOO!
NO... OUR JOB IS FINISHED!
ANY MORE CHORES, BATMAN?
NOT TRUE, BATMAN--
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
21

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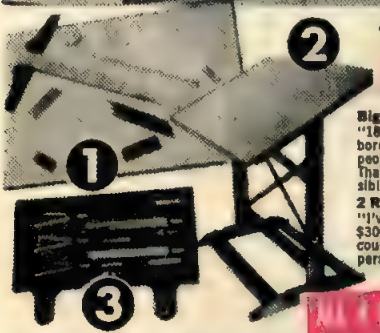

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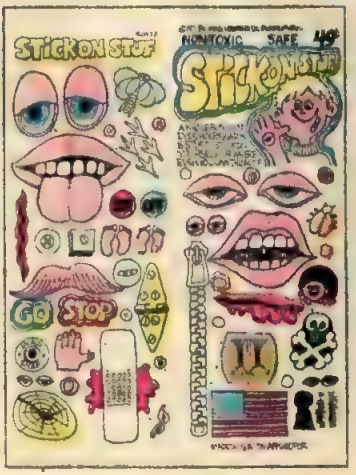

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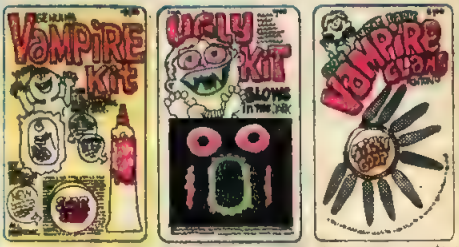

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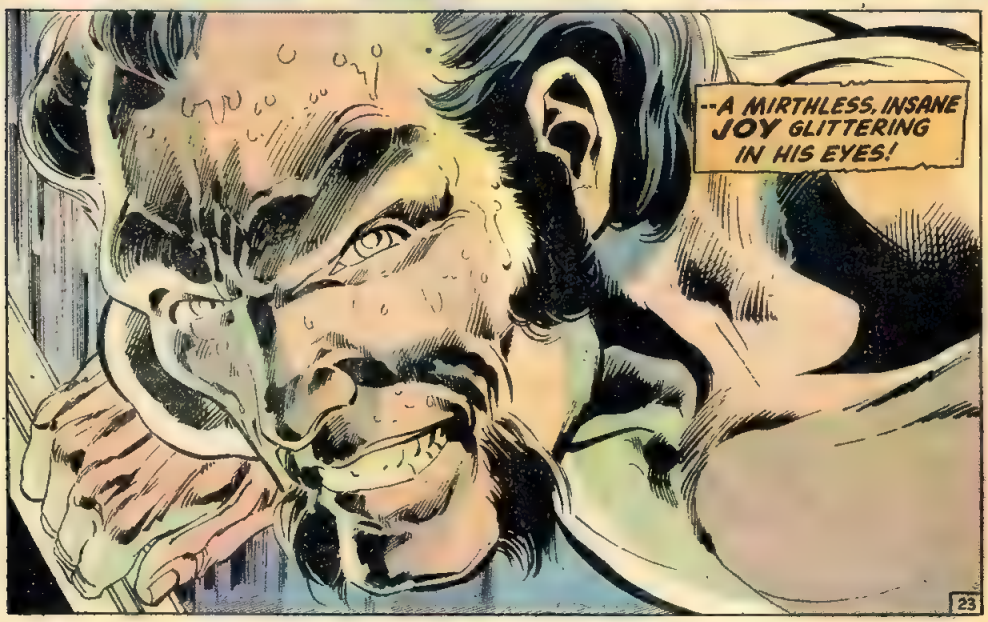
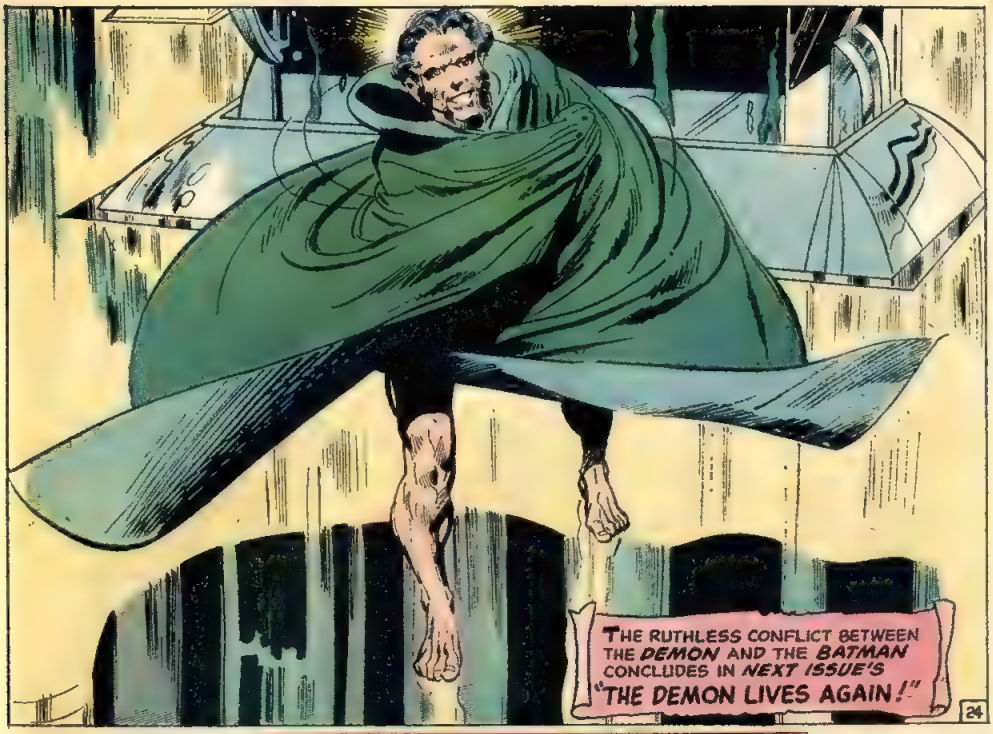
--FOR HAD YOU REMAINED IN THE DEATH-CHAMBER, YOU WOULD HAVE SEEN THE HEAVY SLAB BEARING THE STILL FORM OF RAS AL GHUL SINK INTO A PIT...
YOU WOULD HEAR A FAINT HISS... AND SMELL A THICK, MUSTY ODOR AS BUBBLING LIQUID COVERS IT...
COVERS IT COMPLETELY FOR A MINUTE...TWO...
...AND THEN, ABRUPTLY, YOU WOULD SEE THE SLAB SURFACE...
...RISE ABOVE THE FLOOR...

...BEARING A MODERN-DAY LAZARUS ARISEN FROM THE DEAD...


--A MIRTHLESS, INSANE JOY GLITTERING IN HIS EYES!



NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT JULY 13th

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LETTERS to the BATMAN

Dear Editor:

"Vengeance for a Dead Man" (*Batman* #240) was a beautiful example of a Denny O'Neil relevant-type story. Some people may not think talking to a brain in a glass bubble is *relevant*, but it is! So that we both understand what I'm talking about, I'd better give you my definition of relevant.

A story is *relevant* when it deals with subjects that affect a large percentage of your readers in their everyday life. Now . . . as you may know, scientists have succeeded in keeping disembodied animal brains alive for several weeks. Furthermore, the techniques exist right now to do the same thing with a human brain. It could be done tomorrow . . . *or* it could have been done already and kept secret. When (it's no longer a matter of "if") this thing happens and is publicized, it will obviously raise tremendous legal, moral, and ethical questions—questions that will affect nearly everyone. According to my definition, then, this subject is indeed relevant.

Actually, the only thing a bit fanciful in the story was the way the disconnected brain *spoke*. This was necessary for simple, dramatic effect. I mention it not to criticize but to show how close "Vengeance for a Dead Man" was to reality by pointing out the one detail that would prevent this tale from coming to life today.

—*PAUL EMRATH, Milwaukee, Wis.*

(Careless wording gave the implication that the brain communicated via sound-waves; actually, of course, the brain relayed its thoughts *by* telepathy! *—JS)*

Dear Editor:

"Vengeance for a Dead Man" was another O'Neil masterpiece! Keep him scripting *Batman* tales *at all costs!* As far as I'm concerned (and I *am* concerned!), Denny captures the *true Batman*.

The latest return of *Ra's Al Ghul* was, as I said, great. From start to finish the story was *fun* to read. Every character was portrayed realistically, with not one being corny. The use of a human brain as a plague in this tale was an interesting variation of the "murder victim".

Ra's Al Ghul always *did* seem kind of on the *weird* side to me, and the revelation at the conclusion of the story proved my suspicions. He should make an interesting returning "villain" if he is used right.

I was one of those people, a while back, who was pretty disgusted at *Batman's* continual over-reliance on his utility belt. When the "new" *Batman* appeared, however, this situation completely reversed itself. This was good for a while, but soon his forgotten belt became . . . well, just another fancy belt! Let me say "Thank you" to Denny O for letting *The Batman* once again use his famous weapons-container! I don't want to see it over-used again, but *please* don't phase it out!

—*RUSH GLICK, El Cajon, Ca.*

(That "Vengeance for a Dead Man" ran hot and Cole *is evidenced by the next correspondent. —JS)*

Dear Editor:

After three years of very promising *Batman* scripting from Denny O'Neil, after all these months when *Batman* might turn up in Spain or Ireland or Mexico or New Orleans, after all these stories wherein fantastic use has been made of incidental characters and mood . . . after all this, we are served a mishmash like "Vengeance for a Dead Man"?? Batcopters and bat-lasers and bat-sonic-whistles which confuse dogs on a moment's notice . . . and *Ra's Al Ghul* again!

Surely this "demon" is the least interesting *Batman* villain of all time. And do you really expect us to believe that Bruce Wayne could fall in love with an amoral enigma like *Talia* . . . the cool super-detective and avenger of evil? Predictable gimmicks like the odd cigarettes shop (which didn't even, as far as I can tell, further the solution of the mystery) and the brain-theft just don't have an O'Neil ring to them.

Indeed, in the entire story, there was only one interesting twist—that being that *Ghul* simple prolonged Mason Sterling's life, something the medical professions would have surely done had they been able to, in any case. Unfortunately, the theme was left undeveloped.

The final blow came when some fellow students here at Northwestern University wandered in and read this issue, and commented that the script could have been used verbatim for the *camp TV-Batman* show of a few years back. And they were right. Of course, I immediately pulled out "Night of the Reaper", with which they were suitable impressed . . . Now let's not let this type of thing happen again, right?

—*JUAN COLE, Evanston, Ill.*

(Right! *But then we'd be* left *with the next critic's evaluation!—JS)*

Dear Editor:

It's an art for a writer to produce a tale in which there appears to be nothing bright or clever, and then to pull it off as a complete success. Of course, its effectiveness depends on the general reputation of the writer. When Denny O'Neil's "Vengeance for a Dead Man" began to sag with its plethora of unoriginality, plot-wise, I knew I'd love it. For Denny to resolve an all-too-common conflict in an all-too-common fashion was unthinkable.

Of course, I was not disappointed; he did pull it off, and with greater than average effectiveness. There is great potential in the continued story in which the conclusion is not taken up for several issues. And *Ra's Al Ghul* seems to be the ideal recurring villain for the situation—so, all in all, the flaws in the story were microscopic, at maximum.

—*MARK LUCKE, Beeville, Texas*

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STATE _____ ZIP _____

THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"

HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE, I'D SMASH YOUR FACE---ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A "REAL" BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
LATER
WHAT! YOU HERE AGAIN? HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!
HERO OF THE BEACH
GOSH! WHAT A BUILD
HE'S ALREADY FAMOUS FOR IT!

Let Me PROVE I Can Make YOU A NEW MAN!

ARE you "fed up" with seeing the huskies walk off with the best of everything? Sick and tired of being soft, frail, skinny or flabby — only HALF ALIVE? I know just how you feel. Because I myself was once a puny 97-pound "runt." And I was so ashamed of my scrawny frame that I dreaded being seen in a swim suit.

The Secret of How I Got My Build

Then I discovered a wonderful way to develop my body fast. It worked wonders for me — changed me from the scrawny "runt" I was at 17, into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man." And I can build up YOUR body the very same natural way — without weights, springs or pulleys. Only 15 minutes a day of pleasant practice — in the privacy of your room.

My "Dynamic-Tension" method has already helped thousands of other fellows become real he-men in double-quick time. Let it help YOU. Not next month or next year — but Right NOW!

"Dynamic-Tension" Builds Muscles FAST!

If you're like I was, you want a powerful, muscular, well-proportioned build you can be proud of any time, anywhere. You want the "Greek-God" type of physique that women rave about at the beach — the kind that makes other fellows green with envy.

Mail Coupon Now for My 32-Page Illustrated Book

Mailing the coupon can be the turning point in your life. I'll send you a copy of my 32-page illustrated book, "How Dynamic-Tension Makes You a NEW MAN." Tells how and why my method works; shows many pictures proving what it has done for others. Don't delay. Mail coupon NOW. CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 818, 115 E. 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

Charles Atlas

Awarded the title of "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 818
115 East 23rd St., New York, N. Y. 10010

Dear Charles Atlas: Here's the kind of Body I Want:

(Check as many as you like)

- ☐ Broader Chest and Shoulders
- ☐ Ironhard Stomach Muscles
- ☐ Tireless Legs
- ☐ Slimmer Waist and Legs
- ☐ More Energy and Stamina
- ☐ More Magnetic Personality
- ☐ More Weight—Solid—In the Right Places

I enclose 10c. Please send me a copy of your famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a new man. 32 Pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. This does not obligate me in any way.

Print Name.....Age.....

Address.....

City & State.....Zip Code.....

In England: Charles Atlas, 21 Poland St., London, W.1

DIG THESE!

Four new SNAP TITE® drag construction models you build without glue, without paint and without help.

Extreme Shovel™
Cab pivots, shovel scoops, arms move. Tears through the traps in record time.

Boss Bulldozer™
Blade raises, lowers. World's only competition bulldozer.

Mountain Mover™
Truck bed raises, lowers. Toughest machine on 10 wheels!

Screamin' Skipshovel™
Shovel blade raises, lowers. Plenty of power, tons of traction.

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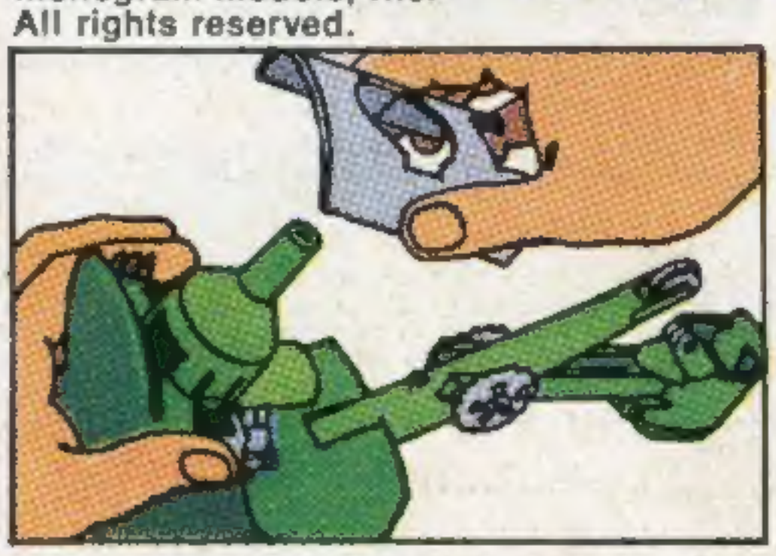

It's easy to build these SNAP TITE® drag models. The pieces snap tightly together without glue or paint. Start building your own fleet of the world's fastest, freakiest construction vehicles.

Monogram® quality hobby kits

MATTEL®

If they were any more real, you'd need a hard hat.

FLATTERMANN